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FAA-02-12504-45

DEPT, OF TRANSPORTATE Con Knight

Florida Community College at Jacksonville

2003 MAY -7 P 12: 1 U

Federal Aviation Administration 400 7th St. S. W. PL-401 Washington, DC 20590

Dear FAA:

I am responding to docket number FAA-2002-12504 Security Considerations for Flight Deck on Foreign Operated Transport Category Aircraft. Allowing unauthorized personnel on the flight deck should be an issue that is of great concern, even before the September 11 incident. There is no reason, what so ever, for anybody other than the pilot, co-pilot, and any other crewmember to be occupying this area of the aircraft unless for specific reasons that has been approved through proper channels.

A pilot's sole purpose should be to safely get passengers and cargo from one point to another. They do not need any interruptions due to the fact that their concentration should be on flying, navigating, and communicating. I firmly believe that even the most experienced pilots can make errors because of undue disruptions.

Access to the flight deck area should be few and limited. Students in flight training should be the most that is allowed inside the flight deck or cockpit. Flight attendants can still serve the crewmembers, but ought to rely merely on intercoms as a source of communication. Even security shouldn't have access except in times of a crisis. The reason for minimal traffic going in and out of this area is so pilots can focus on their flying.

As far as making the flight deck secured from intrusion, this area should be fitted with a bullet-proof reinforced steel door that can only be open from the inside and ten digit key punch code from the outside. Protocol on how to handle a terrorist situation should be to save the pilot and flight crew first. Everything else should be of lesser, but still significant, concern.

The idea of saving the cockpit should have been made clear since the beginning of transporting commuters by flight. This idea should be implemented in all airlines that fall under ICAO regulations as well as of domestic.

Sincerely.

Edgar Knight

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